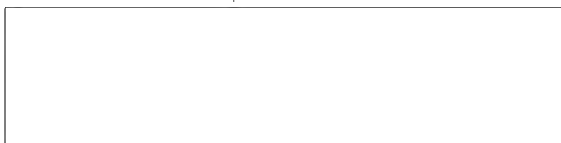


THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST



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ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

5 MARCH 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

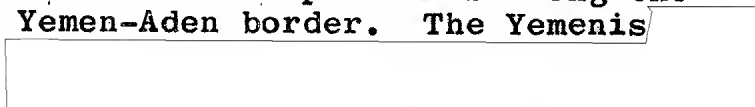
1. UAR-Saudi
Arabia-Yemen

a. UAR naval units shelled
Qizan on the Saudi Arabian coast on
Saturday.



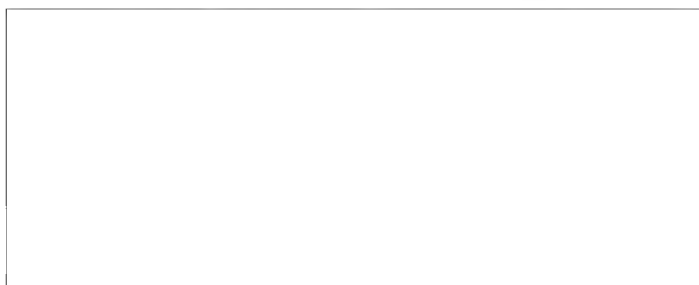
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c. British-led forces of the
Aden Federation have clashed again
with Yemeni republicans along the
Yemen-Aden border. The Yemenis



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withdrew after
suffering several casualties.



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2. Cuban economy

a. "Che" Guevara is saying
candidly that the Cuban economy will
be in far worse condition this year
than last, which was bad enough.
He told this recently to the Swedish
Ambassador to Havana, who circuit
rides between several Middle American
posts.

(Cont'd)

b. The Swedish envoy, visiting Havana for the first time since last October, said his own observation was that, apart from food, consumer goods are in increasingly short supply.

c. Cubans are grumbling more, but the regime's ubiquitous security system makes resistance difficult.

d. The Ambassador forecasts a very poor sugar harvest for this year. His estimate (3 million odd tons) is close to the gloomy figure given by [redacted] Raul Castro and Rafael Rodriguez.

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e. On top of this, the USSR, according to the Ambassador, has been paying only four cents a pound for sugar, although the world market price has risen to six cents a pound since the Soviets made their contract in 1961.

3. Soviet forces in Cuba

a. [redacted]

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50X1

eight truckloads of Russians and four trucks carrying olive-green boxes moving from Torrens, the site of a major Soviet headquarters and supply organization, toward the Havana area.

(Cont'd)

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c.

_____ military supplies _____

_____ moved by the Cuban army out of the Bahia Honda area, soon after the suspect arms carrier Khirurg Vishnevsky unloaded there late last week.

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d.

_____ photography _____

_____ revealed unidentified gear standing alongside the barracks at the Soviet encampments at Remedios and Artemisa.

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4. Syria

a. Cairo Radio's report of a mutiny in the Syrian Army has proven baseless--undoubtedly an attempt to unnerve the government in Damascus.

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NOTES

- A. Iraq-US The Iraqi foreign minister has asked if the US might be willing to supply large helicopters for troop-transport use. He made it clear that he had in mind the possible resumption of fighting with the Kurds. Iraq, he said, had in an order with the USSR for 12 such helicopters, but did not now expect to get them.
-

- C. USSR-US-Asia The Russians have indicated that they will try to bring two topics to the fore in the meeting of the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, which opens in Manila today.
-

- D. Congo-Belgium Spaak is speaking of a "new era" of friendly cooperation between the Congo and Belgium following Adoula's visit to Brussels. The Belgians have indicated willingness to take part under the UN in a military training and economic assistance program for the Congo.

(Cont'd)

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[REDACTED]

F. USSR-Austria Austria's renewed show of interest in associate membership in EEC has drawn a sharp reminder from Moscow that it considers neutrality and the EEC incompatible. The Austrians had been lulled by a long Soviet silence into thinking they would face no serious objections from Moscow.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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50X1

H. Uruguay Communist plans call for a general strike to get under way today.